



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
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Los Angeles, CA 90012
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Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montaña

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **APRIL 2, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montaña led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montaña
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Rita Hall
Carl E. Moore

Excused Absence

John A. Hammargren

Staff

Rhonda Rangel, Commission Services Staff
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff
Garen Khachian, Commission Services Staff

APPROVAL OF MARCH 26, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Cannella, seconded by Vice Chair Stathatos, and unanimously carried, the minutes of March 26, 2008 were approved, with no changes.

Commissioner Moore joined the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montaña reported on the following two (2) articles:

- "Report: Jails Not For Mentally Ill", Daily Breeze, April 1, 2008, regarding a report from the Justice Policy Institute showing a critical need for jails to stop using their facilities as asylums to house homeless, mentally ill, addicts, and persons charged with immigration offenses.
- "Prison Rape Isn't A Punch Line", Los Angeles Times, March 30, 2008, regarding the increase in sexual assaults on inmates at prisons nationally.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$1,118.23.

Commissioner Hall joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Andrew Sevrin, Staff, Commission Services gave the following report:

- The letter from the Commission requesting Director Robert Taylor of the Probation Department send a representative to the next Business Meeting was mailed March 28, 2008.
- The Commission is confirmed to attend the 6th Annual Commissioners' Leadership Conference scheduled for May 21, 2008.

INVITED GUEST, JENNIFER LEHMAN, COUNTY COUNSEL

Ms. Jennifer Lehman, County Counsel, reported the following:

- The Commission may continue to use the Facility Reporting forms because the questions are fairly broad in scope.
- There are certain parameters of what information can be reported to the Commission, i.e.:
 1. Peace Officer abuse in jails should be limited.
 2. The names of children in foster homes are prohibited except in cases of accreditation.

Commissioner Moore stated the "Awards and Recognitions" category should be removed from the Sheriff's Department heading only.

DISCUSSION OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

The Commission has enough funds to offer three to four scholarships to deserving foster youths.

Commissioner Hall will contact an Independent Living Program (ILP) Coordinator regarding helping her find candidates for scholarships. She added that some of the students that she and the Commissioners have met on their school inspections appeared to be suitable candidates for the scholarships.

Vice Chair Stathatos proposed having an annual candidate from Los Angeles Trade Tech (LATT) to consolidate an alliance with the school for publicity purposes.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM MARCH 26, 2008 TO APRIL 1, 2008

Pasadena Courthouse – Vice Chair Stathatos

The facility was visited on March 27, 2008, and found to be in less than satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Facility looks run-down; needs new lockers for enhanced security; furniture is broken; security cameras in main lock-up area need to be upgraded.

GLASS Group Home (Stephen Gabin) – 24, #2 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore (Verbal)

The facility was visited on March 27, 2008, and no one was home.

Manna Manor (Neptune) – 37, #1 – Chair Montañó

The facility was visited on March 31, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

GLASS Group Home (Wilton) – 24, #3 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on April 1, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Sevrin
Commission Services Division